



# **NEWS RELEASE**

## **Office of Speaker of the House**

*David Gowan*

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**Speaker David Gowan (R-Dist. 14, Sierra Vista)**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE DAVID GOWAN INTRODUCES HB 2670 TO ENABLE APPLE TO OPEN INTERNATIONAL OPERATION CENTER**

**STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX (Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2015)** – Speaker of the House David Gowan dropped legislation that, if passed into law, would enable Apple to open an International Operation Center located in Mesa, Arizona.

As announced in a press conference last week with Governor Ducey, Senate President Biggs and Mesa Mayor John Giles, Apple wants to make one of the largest investments in its history - \$2 billion for Arizona in the first 10 years, which would include 150 full-time jobs and 300 -500 construction jobs annually. The project is estimated to have a 30-year timeline.

House Bill 2670 would enable Apple to open and begin hiring immediately by simply changing the framework and language in current law. This will be done in two ways; first, by giving an exemption from sales tax for the electricity or natural gas the operation center will purchase, and second, by expanding a current tax credit to include the use of “renewable energy” at the operations center, instead of for manufacturing only.

Instead of an exemption for a minimum investment of \$300 million spread across five facilities, the new language will allow for \$150 million and one facility. In addition, the tax credit is conditioned upon a separate \$1.25 billion investment in the operation center. The sales tax credit has already been scored in the budget and will come at no cost to taxpayers.

“Apple is just the kind of high-tech, innovative company that we want to bring to Arizona,” stated Speaker Gowan. “Their interest in our state is testament to the fact that Arizona is the best place in the country to work, and to do business. I am excited to work alongside the Governor and Senate to make this a reality.”

As part of the project, Apple is building and financing solar projects that will produce 70 MW of clean energy – enough to power 14,500 Arizona homes.

More details on HB 2670 may be found [online](#).

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